

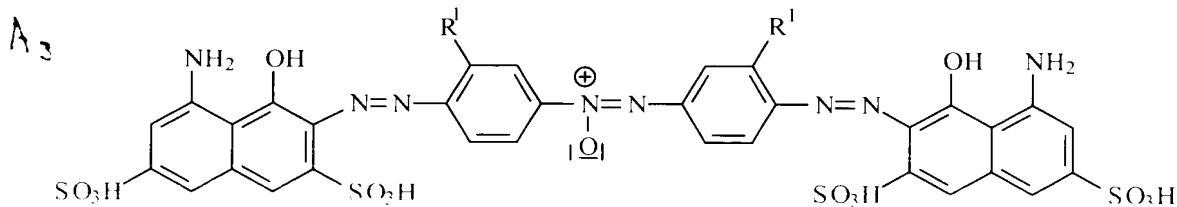
8. (Amended) A process for preparing copper complex dyes, which comprises reacting an azoxy dye of claim 1 with at least 0.1 mol equivalent of a copper donor.

9. (Amended) A method of using one or more azoxy dyes and/or their copper complexes of claim 1 for dyeing or printing natural or synthetic substrates.

10. (Amended) Natural or synthetic substrates dyed or printed with one or more azoxy dyes and/or their copper complexes of claim 1.

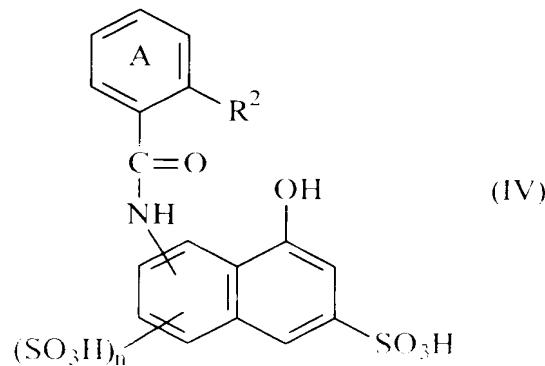
Please add new Claim 13.

13. (New) A process for preparing azoxy dyes of the formula

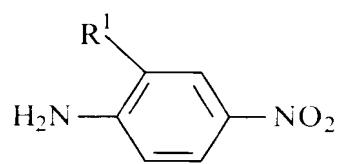


where

R¹ is selected from the group consisting of methoxy, hydroxyl and carboxyl, which comprises coupling a coupling component of the formula IV



with nitroaniline of the formula V



where n, A, R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are each as defined in claim 1, reducing the resultant nitro monoazo dye and deacylating in aqueous solution at pH < 9.